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INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /049 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8396
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EO 12065: NA

TAGS: PDEV PINS CU MX

SUBJ: (LOU) CASTRO TO VISIT MEXICO

- 1. GRANMA, MAY 15, REPORTS THAT FIDEL CASTRO WILL MEET WITH MEXICAN PRESIDENT LOPEZ-PORTILLO, MAY 17-18 ON COZUMEL AT INVITATION OF JLP.
- 2. COMMENT: MEXICAN AMBASSADOR MADERO HAS TOLD US PREVIOUSLY THAT CASTRO HAD A STANDING INVITATION TO COME TO MEXICO, BUT CUBANS HAD BEEN RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT INVITATION PREVIOUSLY DUE TO CONCERN OVER CASTRO'S PERSONAL SECURITY. SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS PRESUMABLY EXPLAIN COZUMEL LOCATION. FROM CUBAN POINT OF VIEW, CASTRO VISIT WILL BE USED TO POINT UP CUBA'S LINKS WITH NON-SOVIET WORLD ON EVE OF SEPT NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT SUMMIT AN EFFORT HAVANAIS PURSUING TO OFFSET CRITICISM OF CUBA'S PREVIOUS BALD ENDORSEMENT OF A PRO-SOVIET POSTURE. (OTHER MANIFESTATIONS OF THIS EFFORT ARE FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA'S RECENT SWING THROUGH WESTERN EUROPE, CASTRO'S ANTICIPATED VISIT TO SPAIN, AND THE LEAK IN U.S PRESS OF POSSIBLE CASTRO VISIT TO NEW YORK.) IN ADDITION, CUBANS HERE CONTINUE TO SPEAK ABOUT POSSIBLE MEXICAN PETROLEUM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SALES TO CUBA ON SOVIET ACCOUNT. PRESUMABLY, SUCH SALES COULD OFFSET CRITICISM FROM LEFTIST, NATIONALIST CIRCLES IN MEXICO OVER JLP GAS NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. GLASSMAN

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE INVIPS/CR/IR WF Date: 5/28/97

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